

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## TRIBUTE TO SISTER ELLEN SPRINGER

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding educator who was recently honored for her half century of dedication to the young people of her community.

Sister Ellen Springer, the chair of the Nazareth Academy science department, recently received a Citation for Excellence in Science Teaching from the Pittsburgh Conference Science Week Committee.

Sister Springer first joined the La Grange Park, IL, based school in 1946. In her 50 years with the school, she has helped students adjust to many changes, as the formerly girls Catholic high school became a coeducational institution.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Sister Springer on this important honor and on her five decades of dedicated service helping to shape the minds and spirits of the young people of her community.

## CONGRATULATING THE AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION ON ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, the Air Force Sergeants Association [AFSA] is celebrating a special event this month. On May 1, the AFSA turns 35. That is 35 years spent serving the needs of the active and retired members of the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, and Air National Guard.

Created in 1961, AFSA's mission was to provide the Air Force enlisted members a voice on the Hill. Today there number and members have grown. Currently there are 300 AFSA chapters and 160,000 members, but their mission remains the same. To speak to Congress on behalf of their members.

Through the efforts of AFSA, Congress is kept informed on important issues to the active, reserve, and retired Air Force personnel. Programs such as pay raises, dental insurance, colas, mobilization insurance, and adequate housing for service members and their families are just a few examples of AFSA's success.

Today educating Congress is just one way the AFSA works for its members. In 1983, the Airmen Memorial Foundation was established. Through this fund, the AFSA has furthered their members educational goals by providing grants, scholarships, and awards. Having a longstanding tradition myself of wanting the best educated military possible, I applaud AFSA's efforts in this area.

But the AFSA knows that higher education is not for everyone. Some of their members are more interested in starting a new career when their tour is up. To help in this area, the AFSA created the postmilitary employment program. Again providing for the needs of its members.

As the AFSA begins its celebration, I would like to extend my congratulations and wish them another 35 years of success.

## HONORING THE RED BOILING SPRINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Red Boiling Springs volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent on Tuesday, April 30, 1996. Had I voted on H.R. 3008 and H.R. 1824, I would have voted "yes" on both.

## STAND UP FOR HEAD START DAY

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Head Start Program. Since 1965, this program has helped millions of low-income children prepare intellectually, physically, and emotionally for entrance into our school system.

I have spent my career as a Congressman in pursuit of ways to ensure that the paths to success are accessible to all. Head Start represents a program that leads our country closer to this goal by providing low-income children with educational training, as well as hot meals and essential medical services. By emphasizing community and parental involvement in achieving school preparedness, the Head Start Program helps kids take the first step toward achieving self-sufficiency.

I have visited Head Start facilities in my district of Dayton, and have been impressed with the demonstrated success of these projects. During the past few months, I heard from many parents whose children have benefited from enrollment in Head Start, and who expressed their concerns over the future of funding for the program.

Head Start serves as an example of what this country is doing right. It is not a charity program, but the type of empowerment program that is instrumental to breaking the chain of poverty in this country. I am relieved that after months of debate on appropriations for 1996, the final budget package restores funding for this initiative, because we should not allow our children to be defeated before they begin.

## HONORING MRS. CARLEAN OWINGS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Carlean Owings, who has dedicated her life's work to the education and nurturing of the children of Fairfax County in the Eleventh district of Virginia. After devoting 36 years to teaching, Mrs. Owings will be retiring this year from Armstrong Elementary School in Reston, VA.

Mrs. Owings started her teaching career in Baltimore, MD, where she taught for 8 years. In 1968, she came to Fairfax County to teach at Mosby Woods, Hunters Woods, and Terraset Elementary Schools before joining the Armstrong faculty in 1986 to teach third-grade students. Outside the classroom, Mrs. Owings continually participated in education development activities and served as a member of both the Virginia and National Education Associations.

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